

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM**  
**SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CIVIL SERVICE AND AGENCY REORGANIZATION**  
**CONGRESSWOMAN JO ANN DAVIS, CHAIRWOMAN**



**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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***Civil Service Subcommittee Passes Legislation  
Granting GAO Additional Management Flexibilities***

Congresswoman Jo Ann Davis (R-Va.), the chairwoman of the House Government Reform Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization, is pleased to announce that the Subcommittee today approved legislation she had introduced to expand the management tools available to the Comptroller General.

H.R. 2751, the "GAO Human Capital Reform Act of 2003," passed unanimously by voice vote this afternoon. It now heads to the full Government Reform Committee.

The approved version of the bill included an amendment offered by Ranking Member Danny Davis (D-Ill.) that requires the Comptroller General to report back to Congress with detailed information on how the reforms enumerated in H.R. 2751 are being implemented. The amendment was also approved without objection by voice vote.

"This legislation builds on the management flexibilities already granted to GAO," Chairwoman Davis said. "As Members of Congress, we heavily rely on GAO for its investigative skill and impartiality as we try to improve the performance and ensure the accountability of the federal government. We rely specifically on the judgments of the Comptroller General to manage his workforce to produce quality and timely information for our use."

H.R. 2751 was the subject of a Civil Service Subcommittee hearing last week, where it received wide support from Comptroller General David Walker, outside management experts, and a representative of the GAO Employees Advisory Council. The legislation includes the following provisions:

- Gives the Comptroller General and GAO managers more authority to financially reward employees for good work, and it removes the guarantee of a pay raise for employees who do not reach minimum performance standards.
- Makes permanent the GAO's early retirement and buyout authority.
- Increases leave benefits for certain employees with less than three years experience.
- Expands the GAO's ability to reimburse employees for some relocation expenses.
- Authorizes a personnel exchange program with the private sector.
- Changes the organization's name to the Government Accountability Office.

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